

Remarks

In the Office Action dated December 15, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan et al. ("Jordan") (US Patent No. 5,745,113) in view of Bhargava et al. ("Bhargava") (US Patent No. 6,219,055). The examiner also rejected claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Bhargava and further in view of Schwalb (US Patent No. 6,256,595).

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for speaking with Applicants' representatives during an interview on March 23, 2005. The remarks presented below are consistent with the topics discussed during the interview.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Bhargava. No *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claim 1 for at least the reason that the combination of Jordan and Bhargava fails to disclose or suggest every claim element included in claim 1.

For example, claim 1 recites a combination of elements including *inter alia* "... an interval count field indicative of a number of mesh entities that will fill said selected entity", "an interval size field indicative of a size of said mesh entities that will fill said selected entity", "a mesh scheme field indicative of a desired mesh scheme" and "a smooth scheme field indicative of a process of improving an element quality after a mesh generation." Each of these claim elements is associated with the operation of a finite element analysis application. Indeed, these elements all include language (e.g.,

elements, mesh entities, mesh scheme, mesh generation) specific to finite element analysis applications.

Neither Jordan nor Bhargava is related to finite element applications. Thus, it reasonably follows that neither Jordan nor Bhargava discloses or suggests the elements of claim 1 related to the operation of a finite element analysis application. Specifically, no combination of Jordan and Bhargava discloses or suggests at least “. . . an interval count field indicative of a number of mesh entities that will fill said selected entity”, “an interval size field indicative of a size of said mesh entities that will fill said selected entity”, “a mesh scheme field indicative of a desired mesh scheme” and “a smooth scheme field indicative of a process of improving an element quality after a mesh generation,” (emphasis added) as included in claim 1.

Similarly, Jordan and Bhargava fail to disclose or suggest every element of independent claim 10. For example, neither discloses or suggests at least “. . . an interval count field indicative of a number of mesh entities that will fill said selected entity”, “an interval size field indicative of a size of said mesh entities that will fill said selected entity”, “a mesh scheme field indicative of a desired mesh scheme” and “a smooth scheme field indicative of a process of improving an element quality after a mesh generation,” (emphasis added) as included in claim 10.

No *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claim 18 for at least the reason that the combination of Jordan and Bhargava fails to disclose or suggest every element. For example, claim 18 recites a combination of steps including *inter alia* “. . . attaching a child window to said parent window . . . wherein said second interface element overlaps said first interface element except for

said first tab identifier.” (emphasis added). Jordan does not disclose that a second interface element overlaps a first interface element. In fact, the Examiner has not cited any portion of Jordan that discloses or suggests a second interface element overlapping a first interface element. Furthermore, Bhargava also does not disclose that the second interface element “overlaps” the first interface element (See Bhargava, fig. 9, items 88 and 90). Thus, the combination of Jordan and Bhargava fails to teach or suggest every claim element included in claim 18.

Similarly, Jordan and Bhargava fail to disclose or suggest every element of independent claim 22. For example, claim 22 recites a combination of elements including *inter alia* “a computer programmed to . . . attach a child window to said parent window . . . wherein said second interface element overlaps said first interface element except for said first tab identifier.” (emphasis added). Jordan does not disclose that a second interface element overlaps a first interface element. In fact, the Examiner has not cited any portion of Jordan that discloses or suggests a second interface element overlapping a first interface element. Furthermore, Bhargava also does not disclose that the second interface element “overlaps” the first interface element (See Bhargava, fig. 9, items 88 and 90). Therefore, no *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claim 22 for at least the reason that the combination of Jordan and Bhargava fails to teach or suggest every claim element included in claim 22.

Because no combination of Jordan and Bhargava teaches or suggests every element of claims 1, 10, 18, and 22, the Section 103(a) rejection of claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-24 is improper and should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-6, 9, 11-15, 19-21 and 23-24 ultimately depend on one of claims 1, 10, 18 and 22 and, therefore,

are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above and in view of their additional recitations of novelty.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Bhargava and further in view of Schwalb. As noted above, no combination of Jordan and Bhargava discloses or suggests every claim element of claims 1 and 10, which claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 ultimately depend upon. Schwalb, which appears to be cited only for its disclosure of "outputting a filter picking dialog interface window from said task window . . ." fails to remedy the deficiencies of the combination of Jordan and Bhargava. Therefore, no *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claims 7, 8, 16 and 17. Accordingly, the Section 103(a) rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

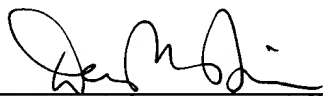
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response, and charge any required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 15, 2005

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